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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1 RECEIVED 2 **COMMISSIONERS** Arizona Corporation Commission 2015 821 30 P 3: 415 SUSAN BITTER SMITH, Chairm DOCKETED 3 **BOB STUMP BOB BURNS** AZ COMP COMM! 4 OCT 3 0 2015 BOCKET CONTRO **DOUG LITTLE** TOM FORESE 5 **DOCKETED BY** IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. W-01445A-06-0059 6 ARIZONA WATER COMPANY, AN ARIZONA 7 CORPORATION, TO EXTEND ITS SECOND SUPPLEMENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME FOR COMPLIANCE FILING 8 NECESSITY FOR ITS PINAL VALLEY SYSTEM, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA 9 On December 5, 2006, the Commission entered Decision No. 69163 in this docket (the 10 11 "Decision"). The Decision directed Arizona Water Company (the "Company"), the applicant in this docket, to file certain items as a compliance filing within certain time frames. The factual 12 background/compliance timeline is as follows: 13 14 The Decision approved an extension of the Company's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") and required the Company to file copies of Certificates of Assured Water Supply 15 ("CAWS"), Approvals to Construct ("ATC"), and Main Extension Agreements ("MXA") for the 16 extension area within two years of the entry of the Decision. 17 18 2. On January 20, 2009, the Commission entered Decision No. 70689, which extended 19 the deadline for the Company to comply with the Decision to December 5, 2010. 20 3. On April 7, 2011, the Commission entered Decision No. 72248, which extended the 21 deadline for the Company to comply with the Decision to December 5, 2012. 22 4. On November 7, 2012, the Company filed in this docket a request for an extension of the current compliance deadline to December 5, 2014. This request included a letter from Traviano 23 24 Partners, LLC, the owner of the property, which requested that the Commission extend the

compliance deadlines in this matter. The request also cited to the fact that the Company was at that

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time serving 620 customers in the area and that the Company had already substantially fulfilled the compliance items in the original order. On January 18, 2013, Mr. Robert Geake, former General Counsel for Arizona Water Company, filed a supplement to the November 7, 2012 request. This supplement included additional property owner letters. Unfortunately, Commission Staff never responded to the November 7, 2012 request or the January 18, 2013 supplement.

5. On June 14, 2013, the Company filed in this docket copies of the three required ATCs. The Company filed CAWS for parcels 1 and 3 on December 8, 2006, and February 12, 2007, respectively. The property owners of parcels 2, 4, and 5 have not yet obtained CAWS for their properties, nor have they yet requested MXAs from the Company.

The Company now submits this second supplementation of its request for an extension of the current compliance deadline to December 5, 2017. In support of its request, the Company respectfully represents as follows:

- The deep recession and real estate crash over the past several years (essentially the Α. entire time that the Decision has been in effect) are extraordinary circumstances which have not been seen since the Great Depression. The severe economic downturn that has battered the Arizona real estate market persists and continues to delay the development of residential and mixed-use development in Arizona, including Pinal County, and no one, including housing experts and economists, can say for sure when the real estate market will see a recovery of any significance.
- B. The Commission Staff itself observed, in evaluating a developer's request for additional compliance time in another case (See Decision No. 71861, docketed September 1, 2010, Finding of Fact No. 14, page 3) that, "...the downturn in the economy has put a damper on much of the development in this state."
- Exhibits 1-3 are recent, updated letters from three of the four property owners D. representing real property located in the expansion area. The letters document the property owners' continuing need and desire to obtain water service from the Company to be able to develop the

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property. The property owners' letters confirm the owners' plans to develop the property in reliance upon water service it plans to obtain under the Company's CCN. The continued existence of that CCN and the Company's continuing authority to provide public utility water service will support the slowly improving development market that has experienced historic difficulty, as detailed above, and the withdrawal of the CCN would be detrimental to that recovery.

- E. The remaining property owners of parcels 2, 4, and 5 will be unable to apply for a CAWS if the Company's CCN is deleted because the Arizona Department of Water Resources places a condition on any application for CAWS that it be located in a CCN or have an application for a CCN pending at the time of the CAWS application.
- F. Also pursuant to a request from Commission Staff, please find attached as Exhibit 4 a spreadsheet showing the compliance items the Company has completed, as well as those items that remain unfulfilled due to the economic downturn and slowdown in real property development in this State.
- G. The Company will submit the final property owner letter once the property owner returns the letter to the Company.

CONCLUSION

The Company believes, and therefore respectfully submits, that the foregoing provides sufficient support for its request for additional time and that it confirms that extraordinary circumstances exist and justify its request. Therefore, the Company respectfully renews its requests set forth in its November 7, 2012 filing and requests that the Commission enter an order:

- a. Extending the compliance deadline to December 5, 2017, under the Decision for the Company to file the remaining compliance items.
- b. Providing any further relief that it deems appropriate under the circumstances of this case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of October, 2015.

ARIZONA WATER COMPANY

E. Robert Spear (No. 025772)

General Counsel

ARIZONA WATER COMPANY

3805 North Black Canyon Highway

Phoenix, AZ 85015

Phone: 602-240-6860

Original and thirteen (13) copies of the foregoing filed this 30th day of October, 2015, with:

9 **Docket Control Division**

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington Street 10

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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A copy of the foregoing was hand-delivered this 30th day of October, 2015, to: 12

13 Honorable Dwight D. Nodes

Chief Administrative Law Judge

14 Hearing Division

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington Street 15

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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Janice Alward

17 Director

Legal Division

Arizona Corporation Commission 18

1200 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007 19

Thomas M. Broderick 20

Director

21 **Utilities Division**

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington Street 22

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

23

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Exhibit 1

Lonesome Valley Farms Ltd. Partnership 1800 W. Hwy 287 Casa Grande, AZ 85194

May 26, 2015

E. Robert Spear Arizona Water Company 3805 N. Black Canyon Highway Phoenix, AZ 85015

Dear Mr. Spear:

Sincerely,

We are following up with you regarding Pinal County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) 401-18-002A and 401-19-0010, which we own.

Although plans for development have been delayed by the severe recession that is still adversely affecting the Pinal County real estate market, we still need and desire to receive water service from Arizona Water Company to serve this property.

Our current plans include development within the earliest possible time, considering current market conditions, perhaps within the next twenty-four months. If market conditions improve, however, we hope to shorten this timeframe.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



Exhibit 2

Selma & Overfield LLC 2320 N. Val Vista Drive Mesa, AZ 85213

August 5, 2015

E. Robert Spear Arizona Water Company 3805 N. Black Canyon Highway Phoenix, AZ 85015

Dear Mr. Spear:

We are following up with you regarding Pinal County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) 401-18-0030, which we own.

Although plans for development have been delayed by the severe recession that is still adversely affecting the Pinal County real estate market, we still need and desire to receive water service from Arizona Water Company to serve this property.

Our current plans include development within the earliest possible time, considering current market conditions, perhaps within the next twenty-four months. If market conditions improve, however, we hope to shorten this timeframe.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Selma & Overfield LLC

Name: Dian

Its: Managel

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Exhibit 3

Traviano Partners LLC 12340 Saratoga Sunnyvale Rd., Suite 10 Saratoga, CA 95070

May 26, 2015

E. Robert Spear Arizona Water Company 3805 N. Black Canyon Highway Phoenix, AZ 85015

Dear Mr. Spear:

We are following up with you regarding Pinal County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) 511-47-001G and 511-47-001A, which we own.

Although plans for development have been delayed by the severe recession that is still adversely affecting the Pinal County real estate market, we still need and desire to receive water service from Arizona Water Company to serve this property.

Our current plans include development within the earliest possible time. considering current market conditions, perhaps within the next twenty-four months. If market conditions improve, however, we hope to shorten this timeframe.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Traviano Partners LLC

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